

Appln No. 10/816,650
Amdt date November 28, 2005
Reply to Office action of October 4, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An enclosed litter box, comprising:
a chassis comprising a structure comprising two side walls, an end wall, a base comprising a width, and an end opening comprising an end edge, and a base rail comprising a width attached to the chassis structure along a lengthwise direction of the two side walls, the base rail width being less than the base width;
a removable litter tray comprising a first position, a second position, a wall structure comprising a first end, and a second end, and a tray rail attached to the wall structure slidably coupled to the chassis such that the first end is closer to the end wall of the chassis than the second end when the litter tray is in the first position inside the chassis before sliding to a second position;
~~a rake comprising a raking end having a plurality of tines and a handle end wherein the raking end is located within the removable litter tray with the raking end closer to the end wall of the chassis than the end opening of the chassis when the litter tray is in the first position;~~
an enclosure for enclosing the removable litter tray ~~and rake; and~~
wherein the second position is characterized by the first end of the litter tray ~~and the raking end of the rake both~~ spaced apart from the end wall of the chassis by a greater distance than when in the first position; and
wherein the tray rail overlaps and contacts, at least in part, the base rail when the litter tray is in the first position.
2. (Original) The enclosed litter box of claim 1, the removable litter tray further comprising an integral handle having a downwardly facing opening.
3. (Previously Presented) The enclosed litter box of claim 1, the enclosure further including a notched recess for engaging a hook portion of a scoop for scooping litter to form a gravity lock with the scoop.

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4. (Currently Amended) The enclosed litter box of claim 3, wherein the scoop further includes a notched blade for engagement with a tined portion of ~~the~~a manual rake.

5. (Original) The enclosed litter box of claim 2, the removable litter tray further comprising:

a transverse groove on an upper rim of a front portion of the removable litter tray;
and

an opening between a bottom surface of the groove and an interior portion of the integral handle whereby a user may dislodge a handle portion of the manual rake held in the transverse groove.

6. (Original) The enclosed litter box of claim 1, wherein the enclosure further comprises:

an outer surface; and

an adhesive label having a decorative motif on an outer surface is adhered to the outer surface of the enclosure.

7. (Currently amended) The enclosed litter box of claim 6~~1~~, wherein:

~~the enclosure outer surface further includes a decorative background; and~~

~~the adhesive label includes a transparent substrate whereby the decorative motif~~

~~of the enclosure outer surface is visible through the adhesive label when the adhesive label is adhered to the enclosure. further comprising a rake comprising a raking end and a handle end.~~

8. (Currently amended) An enclosed litter box, comprising:

a chassis comprising two side walls, an end opening, and an end wall defining a receiving cavity;

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a slidably removable litter tray comprising a perimeter comprising a plurality of sides defining comprising a tray cavity positioned within the receiving cavity of the chassis; said slidably removable litter tray comprising a groove defining a catch channel;

a rake comprising a raking end comprising a plurality of tines for raking litter coupled to a first bar and a handle end comprising a handle portionsecond bar for handling the rake spaced apart from the first bar by a third bar being positioned within the removable litter tray such that the plurality of tines are located within the tray cavity of the litter tray while the handle portionsecond bar is in contact with a front side of the tray perimeter, which is adjacent the end opening of the chassis is engaged to the catch channel;

an enclosure ~~for enclosing the removable litter tray; and~~

wherein the ~~raking end of the rake is positioned proximate the end wall of the chassis and the handle portion is positioned proximate the end opening of the chassis~~first bar is positioned at an angle to the third, the third bar is positioned at an angle to the second bar; and

wherein the second bar and the third bar each comprises a width and a length, and wherein the length is greater in dimension than the width.

9. (Currently Amended) The enclosed litter box of claim 8, the removable litter tray further comprising an integral handle having a downwardly facing opening for use in pulling the removable litter tray from the chassis.

10. (Currently Amended) The enclosed litter box of claim 9, wherein the plurality of tines generally point in a first direction and the ~~handle endsecond bar~~ generally points in a second direction and wherein the first direction is perpendicular to the second direction.

11. (Currently Amended) The enclosed litter box of claim 10, further comprising means for adhering a decorative label to an outer surface of the enclosure ~~means.~~

12. (Previously Presented) The enclosed litter box of claim 8, the enclosure further comprising a gravity lock groove for removably attaching a scooper to the enclosure.

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13. (Previously Presented) The enclosed litter box of claim 12, wherein the scooper further comprises a notched blade for engagement with a tined portion of the rake.

14. (Previously Presented) An enclosed litter box, comprising:
a chassis comprising a receiving cavity;
a removable litter tray positioned in the receiving cavity of the chassis and slidably coupled to the chassis;

a rake comprising a raking end for raking litter comprising at least two tines spaced apart from one another by a first gap and a handle end comprising a handle portion for handling being positioned in the litter tray;

a scooper comprising a scooper handle portion for handling and a scooping portion for scooping comprising at least two indentations defining at least two notches spaced apart from one another by second gap; wherein

the first gap and the second gap are generally equal to one another so that the at least two notches align with the at least two tines to enable the at least two indentations to contact the at least two tines to scrape the at least two tines with the scooper.

15. (Previously Presented) The enclosed litter box of claim 14, wherein the handle portion is connected to two ends of the raking end.

16. (Previously Presented) The enclosed litter box of claim 14, further comprising a groove on an end of the litter tray.

17. (Previously Presented) The enclosed litter box of claim 16, wherein the handle portion is coupled to a groove on the litter tray.

18. (Previously Presented) The enclosed litter box of claim 14, further comprising a handle on an end surface for slidably moving the litter tray.

19. (Previously Presented) The enclosed litter box of claim 14, further comprising a third tine and a fourth tine.

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20. (Previously Presented) The enclosed litter box of claim 14, wherein the chassis comprises a base and the litter tray comprises a base; wherein the base of the litter tray abuts the base of the chassis.

21. (Currently Amended) An enclosed litter box, comprising:
a chassis comprising two side walls, an end wall, and an end opening comprising an end edge;

a removable litter tray slidably coupled to the chassis and having a first position and a second position relative to the chassis;

~~a rake located, at least in part, within the removable litter tray for raking litter deposited in the litter tray;~~

an enclosure coupled to the chassis for enclosing the removable litter tray comprising a notch recess comprising two notch surfaces that are non-parallel to one another;

a scooper for scooping comprising a scooping end and a handle end comprising a hook portion; and

wherein the hook portion of the scooper is engaged to the notch recess on the enclosure such that the handle end is elevated above the scooping end.

22. (Previously Presented) The enclosed litter box of claim 21, wherein the litter tray comprises two side walls, a front wall, a rear wall, and a base defining a tray cavity.

23. (Previously Presented) The enclosed litter box of claim 21, wherein the hook portion comprises an extension comprising two edges that are non-parallel to one another to engage with the notch recess on the enclosure.

24. (New) The enclosed litter box of claim 21, further comprising a rake located, at least in part, within the removable litter tray.